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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant(s) | : | Günther Beisel |
| Serial No. | : | NOT YET KNOWN (PCT/EP00/08645) |
| Int. Filed | : | September 5, 2000 |
| For | : | METHOD FOR IMPROVING AND MAINTAINING BOWEL FUNCTION AS WELL AS A METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION THEREOF |

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

S I R:

In advance of the first office action, please amend the claims as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Replace current claims 1 - 20 by the enclosed amended claims 1 - 20. A marked-up version of amended claims 1 - 20 is also enclosed.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1 - 20 are in the application.

As a result of the foregoing amendment, the claims have been amended to remove improper multiple dependencies.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with the application may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

Friedrich Kueffner Reg. No. 29,482
317 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10017
(212) 986-3114

March 6, 2002
FK:ml
**ENCLS:**
**Amended Claims;**
**Marked-Up Version.**

EXPRESS MAIL No.: **EU 076 175 262 US** Deposited: **March 6, 2002**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express mail under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231.

Friedrich Kueffner